Author's response to reviews

Title: The perceptions of professional soccer players on the risk of injury from competition and training on natural grass and 3rd generation artificial turf.

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Version: 3 Date: 14 February 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Mr. Cenzon,

We would like to again thank the reviewers for their insightful comments and for helping us improve our work. Below you will find a detailed list of responses to all the issues raised.

Once again please harmonize throughout manuscript ‘players’ there are still some instances where you switch between players and athletes

*The use of ‘players’ has been harmonized.*

Abstract – Background - Change ‘affect’ to ‘effect’

*We have made the recommended change.*

Line 2: ‘Players believed injuries non-contact....and injury on FT’ - This sentence does not make sense. I think you mean players believed artificial turf as opposed to natural grass. Please correct

*We have amended the sentence.*

Conclusion

Line 1: delete ‘do’ so it reads ‘Players believe....

Line 1: replace ‘by’ with according to

Line 2, sentence 2: You do not need this sentence. Just specify in previous sentence ‘risk of non-contact injury’.

*We have made the recommended changes.*

Introduction

Paragraph 1: Focus the introduction on soccer and not on ‘sporting events in general’.

Line 1: change ‘and’ to ‘an’ □Line 2: Change ‘may’ to ‘many’
We have made the appropriate changes.

Line 7: You should provide a reference here. E.g. Van Mechelen, (1992)

A reference is provided for this information. The following is the paper from which the information was cited.


Paragraph 2: - You say that the injury rates on both surfaces are comparable... Can you state these injury rates and reference them. Briefly is the distribution and severity higher or lower according to type of surface?

We have provided incidence rates from the two papers specifically focusing on elite male professional players. We have provided the appropriate references.

Paragraph 2: last sentence: change to ‘opinions about ....’

Paragraph 3: Line 1: No need to write ‘In a study....’ Simply, Movement patterns.... (Andersson et al., 2008).

Line 9: change ‘from a 90...’ to ‘following a 90...’

Paragraph 4: Line 2: change ‘about’ to ‘regarding’. ‘the affect’ does not make sense, please delete

Paragraph 4: Sentence 1: consider splitting into two separate sentences. It is quite drawn out.

The recommended changes have been made.

Methods

Line 4: put a comma after ‘teams’ and before ‘compete’

Results

Paragraph 2: Line 1: Change ‘lead to’ to ‘was perceived to cause’

Paragraph 2: Line 2: ‘Further, the majority of players also felt’ – please change to this

The recommended changes have been made.
Paragraph 1: Line 2. Players believed ... - I think you mean to specify artificial compared to natural grass contributed ..... Please amend.

Same sentence and next sentence beginning ‘Considering that this is a major....likely to occur on FT. I do not see a link with these two sentences. It does not make sense. Please revise this sentence and your inference from it.

The sentences have been revised.

Paragraph 2: Line 9: ‘In a prospective study....player contact to contact injuries accounted for...’ This is an old reference (13 years old). There have been studies since providing details on contact and non-contact injuries in elite football e.g. from the UEFA group (Ekstrand and colleagues). Please use a more recent reference here.

A recent reference has been used.


Paragraph 4: Line 13: ‘The player comments....... ‘ please change ‘postulate’ to ‘postulation’

The recommended change has been made.

Paragraph 4: Line 19: Please provide a reference ‘fatigue has been associated with an increase in injury’

A reference was initially provided but included at the end of the sentence. The reference is as follows:


Paragraph 4: Line 25: Clarify ‘surface impact attenuation’

“surface stiffness” has been used instead of “surface impact attenuation”. Surface stiffness has been used throughout the paper.

Paragraph 5: Line 10: change postulate to ‘postulation or suggestion

Conclusion

Line 2: Change ‘affect’ to ‘effect’
The recommended changes have been made.